with USA and China. Government maintains a constant watch on the acquisition of military equipment by neighbouring countries that have a bearing on our security. Pakistan's proposed acquisition of new fighter aircraft has been taken into account in planning our defence measures.

Chinese 200 MIG-21 type combat aircraft for Pak

2399. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of recent newspaper reports regarding the supply of 200 MIG-21 type combat aircrafts to Pakistan by China by the end of March, 1988;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is also acquiring CC-404 aircraft engines from the United States which will be fitted in the Chinese built aircrafts; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government is aware that Pakistan is proposing to acquire F-7M aircraft from China. Pakistan also has plans to manufacture modified F-7 aircraft as part of a joint venture with USA and China.

(b) There is no information with the Government about Pakistan's decision to acquire CE-404 engines from the USA for Chinese built aircraft.

(c) Government maintains a constant watch on the acquisition of military equipment by neighbouring countries that have a bearing on our security. Pakistan's proposed acquisition of new fighter aircraft has been taken into account in planning our defence measures.

British Sea eagle for Indian Airforce

2400. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IAF has ordered British made Sea Eagle anti-ship missiles for a special squadron of Jaguar Fighter-bombers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the cost and specifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It would not be in the public interest to disclose further details in this regard.

Diplomatic status of ANC mission in Delhi

2401. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal confirming full diplomatic status to the African National Congress Mission in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have not considered granting diplomatic recognition to the African National Congress. Government, however continue to extend all possible political, moral and material support to the African National Congress.